

## Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
----- 062398

P R 121800Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6749

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

S E C R E T PARIS 00935

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MASS LE

SUBJECT: LEBANESE ARMS CONTROL

REF: STATE 006146

1. WE DISCUSSED CONTROL OF ARMS TRAFFIC TO LEBANON (REF-TEL) WITH JACQUES LEPRETTE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN FOREIGN MINISTRY.

2. LEPRETTE ASSURED US THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS SUCCESSFULLY OPPOSED ALL LICENSE REQUESTS FOR FRENCH ARMS EXPORTS TO NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS IN LEBANON EVER SINCE CRISIS STARTED. GOF DOES HAVE ONGOING MILITARY SALES PROGRAM WITH LEBANESE ARMY. WHILE VOLUME OF SUCH SALES IS SMALL, GOF RECOGNIZES THAT SOME OF THESE ARMS PROBABLY END UP IN HANDS OF ONE OR MORE OF THE FACTIONS ENGAGED IN COMBAT.

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3. LEPRETTE EXPRESSED SYMPATHY WITH OBJECTIVE OF OUR

DEMARCHE, AND SAID HE WOULD SEE WHAT HE COULD DO TO PROMOTE THE ARMS CONTROL IDEA IN GOF. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY, LEPRETTE SAID THAT COUVE DE MURVILLE'S REPORT ON LEBANESE CRISIS DID NOT ADDRESS THE ARMS TRAFFIC QUESTION AT ALL. LEPRETTE SAID THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF WE COULD PROVIDE DETAILS ON THE ARMS TRAFFIC TO THE CHRISTIAN ELEMENTS IN LEBANON SO THAT GOF CAN HAVE SOME IDEA OF THE DIMENSIONS AND SOURCES. IT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL IF INDIRECT CHANNELS OF FRENCH ARMS SHIPMENTS COULD BE IDENTIFIED.

4. COMMENT: AS THE VOID IN COUVE DE MURVILLE'S REPORT WOULD INDICATE, THE GOF CHARACTERISTICALLY CONSIDERS ARMS FLOWS AS A SYMPTOM RATHER THAN A CAUSE OF CONFLICT. HOW FAR GOF MIGHT BE WILLING TO GO ON THIS PROBLEM WOULD DEPEND ON KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT AND WHOM THEY WOULD BE CONFRONTING IN SUCH AN EXERCISE.  
RUSH

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS, EXPORT LICENSES, MILITARY SALES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976PARIS00935  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760010-0963  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 6146  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 MAR 2004  
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**Review History:** RELEASED <26 MAR 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <03 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LEBANESE ARMS CONTROL  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MASS, LE, FR, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006